

Montana Council of Deans of Education

Carroll College - Montana State University-Billings
Montana State University-Northern - Montana State University-Bozeman
Salish Kootenai College - University of Great Falls - Rocky Mountain College
The University of Montana-Western - The University of Montana-Missoula

Montana State Superintendent of Schools Denise Juneau
Office of Public Instruction
P.O. Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501

The Honorable Steve Bullock
Governor of Montana
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 200801
Helena, MT 59620-0801

September 1, 2014

Dear Superintendent Juneau and Governor Bullock:

On behalf of the Montana Council of Deans of Education (MCDE), we applaud the adoption and implementation of the Montana Common Core Standards and offer you our strongest support as you work together to strengthen Montana P-12 education. Recognizing that the goal of these new standards is to help ensure students graduating from high school are better prepared to enter either post-secondary education institutions or the workforce. The standards will also help us better align curricula within the K-12 system and reduce the numbers of students requiring post-secondary developmental education.

The standards represent a significant improvement over our previous standard. The Office of Public Instruction has involved a variety of post-secondary faculty members in reviewing both the content standards and the newly-designed state assessment. We applaud these efforts and others generated under your leadership. You are forging meaningful partnerships between P-12 education and Montana post-secondary institutions. Indeed, your outreach to every campus in this state is deeply valued. Many of us have further demonstrated support for the Montana Common Core Standards by signing the *Statement of Principles* drafted by Higher Ed for Higher Standards, available here: <http://higheredforhigherstandards.org/>.

Sincerely,



Thomas Evans, President

Carroll College

Mark Nook, Chancellor

Montana State University Billings

Waded Cruzado, President

Montana State University Bozeman

Greg Kegel, Interim Chancellor

Montana State University Northern




Robert Wilmouth, President

Rocky Mountain College



Robert R. DePoe III, President

Salish Kootenai College



Eugene J. McAllister, President

University of Great Falls

Royce C. Engstrom, President

University of Montana Missoula

Roberta D. Evans, Interim Chancellor

University of Montana Western

cc: Clayton Christian, Commissioner, Montana University System

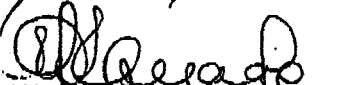
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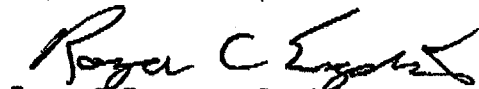
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